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MINUTES

Ninth Meeting of the
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRATEGY BOARD
January 31, 1952 2:45 p.m.
Director's Conference Room
Administration Building
Central Intelligence Agency


MEMBERS:

General Walter B. Smith, Director of Central Intelligence,
Chairman
Honorable William C. Foster, Deputy Secretary of Defense
Honorable James E. Webb, Under Secretary of State
Honorable W. Averill Harriman, Director for Mutual Security,
Executive Office of the President
Dr. Raymond B. Allen, Director, Psychological Strategy Board

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

Department of State
Mr. Edward W. Barrett, Ass't Secretary of State for Public
Affairs
Department of Defense
Brig. Gen. John Magruder, USA (Ret'd)
Joint Chiefs of Staff
Brig. Gen. Jesmond D. Balmer, USA
Central Intelligence Agency
Office of Director for Mutual Security, Executive Office of
The President
Mr. Samuel Berger, Ass't to Mr. Harriman (Agenda Item 2 only)
Psychological Strategy Board
Mr. C. Tracy Barnes, Deputy Director
Mr. Edmond Taylor
Col. Charles W. McCarthy, Executive Officer
Major Edmund J. Bennett, Secretary
U. S. Senate
Senator Brien McMahon (for Agenda Items 1 through 3)

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Charles W. McCarthy
Colonel, U.S.A.
Executive Officer

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NSC review(s) completed.

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Approval of Minutes of Seventh Meeting

Minutes of the seventh meeting were approved. Amendments to the minutes of the eighth meeting were suggested by Mr. Foster and Mr. Webb. General Smith asked that these be inserted and underlined and then circulated for approval.

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Action:

Approved as amended. Amendments proposed by Mr. Harriman and General Smith were accepted. Mr. Webb offered some observations on Group B actions for inclusion in the minutes; these will be considered at the next meeting.

Discussion:

Mr. Harriman proposed the following amendments to Section III, all of which were unanimously approved by the Board:

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General Smith then proposed the following amendments, which were also unanimously approved by the Board:

a. Section VI. Administrative Matters, par. I.A., 4th line. Delete "including" and insert in lieu "where appropriate chaired by a member of the Psychological Strategy Board staff cleared for covert activities and which will include"

b. Add a par. C. to par. I, Section VI:
"The reports of the various members shall be made available to the others except on matters affecting the security"

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of CIA operations. The CIA member may make his report
available only to the Chairman and, in the field, to the

[REDACTED]

General Smith stated that his staff had recommended the phrase
"CIA to support" be added in:

Items a through g, i and j on pages 12 - 14; par. 1b, page 15
and at the end of the last paragraph, page 22.

General Smith, however, did not propose these additions. He felt
CIA was required to give enough support on other items. Where it is
not otherwise specified, he said, CIA will support to the extent of
its capabilities.

Mr. Webb indicated his willingness to accept the Plan but re-
quested that the following observations be incorporated in the minutes:

"The Department of State agrees with the purposes and objec-
tives in PSB D-14/b. Because of the novelty of many of the proposed
courses of action in the new fields under which we would be taking U.S.
Government operations, we accept this report as guidance to planners

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"If the foregoing considerations are kept constantly in mind by both the planners and the officials who will be responsible for implementation, the courses of action flowing from this paper should lead us in the right direction and should enhance our security."

The other Board members asked that they be given an opportunity to study these observations and then discuss them at the next meeting before formal incorporation in the minutes.

Agenda Item No. 1. - Plan for Conducting Psychological Operations During General Hostilities (PSB D-6a)

Action:

To be considered at the next meeting at which time the views of the Department of Defense will be presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Foster advised that Defense's views were being cleared. These views had been discussed informally by the alternates, but certain points are still unsettled. General Smith indicated his concern over the Joint Chiefs' proposal to use "theatre of war" instead of "theatre of operations". He observed that the "theatre of war" definition would probably mean "global" which, in relation to the paper at hand, would give the Joint Chiefs of Staff responsibility for virtually the entire job. Such a definition would not be acceptable, General Smith declared, since, in his opinion, the military responsibility should, generally speaking, be limited to areas where fighting is occurring or about to occur.

Agenda Item No. 3. - Terms of Reference for PSB Weapons Information Guidance Committee (PSB D-17d/1; previously unnumbered, but dated 17 January 1952)

Action:

Approved as amended.

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Agenda Item No. 5. - Terms of Reference for Sub-Panel B-1 (Inventory - Second Stage)

Action:

Approved. The Board directed that a PSB panel: (a) undertake the strategic aspects of this job; and (b) delineate the specific tactical tasks and indicate their allocation to operating agencies.

Discussion:

Mr. Webb approved the paper and suggested that the PSB panel make use of the studies and information on this subject and on economic warfare which are available in State and other agencies. General Smith suggested that since the study to be undertaken involved operations and tactics, consideration should be given to transferring it to the POCC. Dr. Allen also favored considering such a move.

General Magruder and Mr. Barrett, members of POCC, reported that POCC is concerned primarily with propaganda. There is a good deal of international covert work and strategy involved in the subject study which POCC is not equipped to handle, they said.

Mr. Webb said since covert work was involved in the study a PSB panel should be used for it. Mr. Barrett suggested the job of developing detailed tactics could be given to POCC and CIA.

General Smith commented that since the problem states "to recommend concrete steps which the United States (and its Allies) can take in the future to frustrate Soviet blackmail tactics," it is out of the realm of strategy. General Magruder and Dr. Allen suggested the phrase "concrete steps" be omitted and the Board agreed. Dr. Allen offered to have the PSB staff aid in developing the specific tasks under this problem. The Board accepted this offer.

Agenda Item No. 6. - Guidance for the Director in Dealing with Congressional Committees

Action:

Mr. Webb was designated to give guidance to the Director on Congressional relations.

Discussion:

General Smith reported that this item had been discussed at the luncheon preceding the meeting.

Mr. Webb offered to develop some guide lines for the Director to follow in dealing with Congressional committees. Dr. Allen said he would like very much to have such guidance.

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Agenda Item No. 7. - Effectiveness of the US-UK-French Disarmament
Proposal in the United Nations (PSB D-20 (DRAFT))

Action:

Accepted the paper for its information.

Discussion:

The Board members complimented the PSB staff on the fine job they had done on this paper and expressed the hope that similar evaluation papers would be forthcoming from the PSB staff in the future.

Mr. Webb reported that Mr. Phillips had some comments on the paper which he would pass on to the PSB staff,

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